

REMARKS

Claims 2-6, 18, 24, 27, and 28 are indicated as having allowable subject matter. Please note that Claim 28 is an independent claim and appears that it should be identified as allowed.

Rejection of Claims 1, 7, 8, 19, 20, 23 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 7, 8, 19, 20, 23 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US2002/0145860 A1, published October 10, 2002 naming Lee as an inventor (hereinafter "Lee") in view U.S. Patent 6,424,396, issued to Kim *et al.* on June 23, 2002 (hereinafter "Kim"). The Examiner states that a light guide plate in Lee has first and second sides. The first side includes a series of optical elements and the second side includes a series of plateaus for enhancing the brightness of the light and that the base planes and plateaus are not coplanar with the base planes.

Claims 1 and 19 state that the plateaus are substantially parallel but not coplanar with the base planes. In Claim 19, the plateaus are substantially parallel with the base planes. Lee does not disclose plateaus that are substantially parallel but not coplanar with the base planes. Instead, Lee discloses recesses 721, which are indentations. The recesses 721 are for enhancing the brightness of the light and are formed in various shapes, such as a triangular horn shape, a tetragonal horn shape, a pentagonal horn shape, a hexagonal horn shape and the like.

Further, Kim does not remedy the deficiencies. The plateaus 14 of Kim are formed on a lower substrate 10. A pixel electrode 11 is formed over the plateaus such that the stepped portions are formed. The plateaus are formed by a gate insulating layer 12 and a protection layer 13. See column 3, lines 7-11. There is no disclosure or suggestion that the gate insulating layer and the protection layer are suitable for an optical film through which light can pass. Kim is directed to the electrical internal components of a vertically aligned liquid crystal display. There is no suggestion in Kim that an optical structure film can include a side having a series of stepped plateaus and a series of base planes that run along a first axis wherein said plateaus and base planes alternate along a second axis and said plateaus are substantially parallel but not coplanar with the base planes.

The application of a grooved structure to the smooth surface of the linear prism films improves significantly the light directing capability of the films by increasing light throughout at the grooved structure surface and prism interface and redirecting wide incident angle light rays while reducing wet out. The base planes and plateaus are of such sizes to reduce the visibility of Newton's rings and moiré fringes while minimizing surface to surface contact with films or the peaks of prisms, thereby reducing wet out. There is no disclosure or suggestion by Lee or Kim or combination thereof that such a linear prism film would result.

Further, there is no suggestion of a light directing structure having a first directing film and a second directing film where each have a surface having a plurality of stepped plateaus and a plurality of base planes wherein the plateaus have an elevation different than the base plane and that the plateau and base planes are substantially parallel to each other and oriented in parallel relative to the peaks of the linear prisms. There is no disclosure or suggestion of such a limitation in either Lee or Kim.

Therefore, the claims are not obvious over Lee in view of Kim.

Rejection of Claims 9 and 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 9 and 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Lee and Kim as applied to Claim 8 and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US2002/015793 A1, published on August 8, 2002 and naming Oda *et al.* as inventors (hereinafter "Oda").

There is no suggestion to combine the three references to result in a film with plateaus that are substantially parallel but are not coplanar with the base planes in combination with triangular linear prisms with a particular top angle.

Therefore, the claims are not obvious in view of Lee, Kim, and Oda alone or in combination thereof.

Rejection of Claims 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Lee and Kim as applied to Claim 9 and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US2002/015793 A1, published on August 8, 2002 and naming Oda *et al.* as inventors (hereinafter "Oda").

There is no suggestion to combine the three references to result in a film with plateaus that are substantially parallel but are not coplanar with the base planes in combination with triangular linear prisms with a particular prism shape.

Therefore, the claims are not obvious in view of Lee, Kim, and Oda alone or in combination thereof.

Rejection of Claims 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Lee and Kim as applied to Claim 19 and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US2002/015793 A1, published on August 8, 2002 and naming Oda *et al.* as inventors (hereinafter "Oda").

There is no suggestion to combine the three references to result in a film with plateaus that are substantially parallel but are not coplanar with the base planes in combination with triangular linear prisms with a particular top angle.

Therefore, the claims are not obvious in view of Lee, Kim, and Oda alone or in combination thereof.

Rejection of Claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee and Oda as applied to Claim 1 and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,396,350, issued to Beeson *et al.* (hereinafter "Beeson").

Beeson *et al.* do not remedy the deficiencies of Lee and Oda. There is no disclosure or suggestion in any of the references to a series of stepped plateaus and to a series of base planes that run along a first axis wherein the plateaus and base planes alternate wherein the linear optical elements on the opposite side are pitched at regular intervals or include lenticular linear elements.

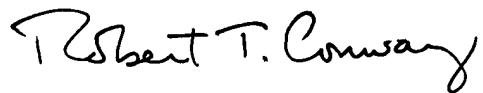
Therefore, the claims are not obvious in view of Lee, Oda, and Beeson, alone or in combination thereof.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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